

BUDGET VOTE

TUESDAY

MAY 17

7 a.m. – 9 p.m.

TAX LEVY
INCREASE
OF 0.0%



**Green Meadow
Elementary School
Named 2021 National
Blue Ribbon School!**

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

BUDGET BRIEF

MAY 2022

East Greenbush CSD Proposes School Budget with 0% Tax Levy Increase for 2nd Year in a Row

The East Greenbush Central School District has proposed a school budget that maintains all programs and services with no tax increase for the second year in a row. The proposed budget, totaling \$104,840,470 would add instructional staffing, new textbooks and new playground equipment.

Residents will vote on the proposed school budget and elect three Board of Education members on Tuesday, May 17.

Other propositions on the ballot include the purchase of eight replacement school buses from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund with no impact to taxpayers and the creation of a new Capital Reserve Fund.

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

- Proposition 1: School Budget of \$104,840,470 with 0.0% Tax Levy Increase
- Proposition 2: Authorize \$752,468 from Bus Purchase Reserve Fund to Replace Eight Buses
- Proposition 3: Creation of New Capital Reserve Fund
- Election of Three Members to the Board of Education

Voter Propositions on the May 21 Ballot

Proposition No. 1: School Budget

RESOLVED; That the operating budget, in the amount of \$104,840,470 as proposed by the Board of Education, be adopted for the school fiscal year 2022 – 2023 and the levy of taxes be assessed therefore in accordance with law.

Proposition No. 2:

School Buses from Bus Purchase Reserve Fund

RESOLVED; (a) That the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District, in the Counties of Rensselaer and Columbia, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to purchase various school buses and to expend therefore, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$752,468; (b) that the Board of Education is hereby authorized to expend \$752,468 for the vehicles referred to herein from the District's "Bus Purchase Reserve Fund" which was established pursuant to voter approval on May 15, 2018; and (c) that the Board of Education is hereby further authorized to deposit in the District's "Bus Purchase Reserve Fund" an amount up to 100% of any State Aid received in any year with respect to the purchase of vehicles.

Proposition No. 3: Capital Reserve Fund

RESOLVED; the Board of Education of the East Greenbush Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a capital reserve fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be designated, "2022 Capital Reserve Fund" created to defray the cost of the construction, reconstruction and equipping of School District buildings and facilities, including original equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, furnishings, land acquisitions, and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, and to defray the cost of, in whole or in part, and in order to accomplish the same, the Board is hereby authorized to establish the ultimate amount of such reserve fund to Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, with a probable term of ten (10) years. The Board of Education is hereby authorized to pay funds from the available fund balance, state aid reimbursement to the School District on account of capital projects, such other monies as the voters may direct, and/or other legally available funds of the School District to such reserve fund in an amount determined by the Board of Education up to the maximum authorized amount. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Board of Education Candidates

There are three open seats for the Board of Education. Qualified district residents may vote for up to three persons to fill these positions. The following candidates filed nominations:



Jennifer O'Brien

In November 2021, I was appointed to the Board of Education. For seven years I taught English at Kingston High School. During my tenure there, I taught a variety of courses, was faculty advisor for the literary magazine and helped design department materials for Regents exam preparation. I was awarded a Fulbright scholarship by the U.S. Department of Education.

After Kingston High School, I taught English at Shaker High School. Both positions familiarized me with not only Regents and NYS standards, but also the process involved with formulating and implementing an IEP. While teaching at Kingston and Shaker, I also worked as an adjunct instructor for The

College of Saint Rose and Hudson Valley Community College. I currently work with adult learners and help them earn their high school diplomas and continue on in their studies.

I also serve as a board member for Strong Through Every Mile (STEM) which trains survivors of domestic violence to run a 5k. My older daughter is currently in 12th grade at Columbia and my younger one is in 8th grade at Goff. My husband and I are happy with the education and opportunities they have received thus far and are committed to our community.



Michele Skumurski

My name is Michele K. Skumurski and I am currently serving my 5th year on the Board of Education.

I am a lifelong District resident, graduating from Columbia High School in 1990. I am a CPA and earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from UAlbany. I'm employed as the Vice President of Finance/Controller at Albany Medical Center where I have worked for 22 years.

I participate on the East Greenbush Education Foundation, as a volunteer for various sports' clubs and until my dog's recent retirement participated in Therapy Dogs International. My husband, Ted, and I are proud parents to three children. Davis, a 2017 graduate of Columbia, our daughter, Rachel, a 10th grader at Columbia and our youngest, Tanner, a 7th grader at Goff Middle School.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve our District. In addition, I pledge to continue the District's commitment on being able to provide a vast array of opportunities that will both foster and encourage success in each and every East Greenbush School District student. Again, thank you for the honor to serve our community.



Emily Steinbach

I am seeking my first term on the school board because I believe in serving the community where I live. I believe the board should reflect the diverse makeup of our community and that board members must first be good listeners and understand the concerns of our entire community.

I earned a Master in Public Administration and a Certificate in Nonprofit Management and Leadership from Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, SUNY Albany and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Smith College.

I have worked in healthcare for over a decade, many years at the NYS Dept. of Health in Medicaid, developing policy, drafting regulation and evaluating the NYS budget impact. Currently, I work as a Senior Contract Negotiator at Capital District Physicians' Health Plan (CDPHP) specializing in value-based care, State programs, and behavioral health network development.

I have experience serving on two school board committees - Budget Review & Advisory (BRAC) and Finance/Audit. I am a Capital Region native and am happy to call East Greenbush home. I live with my wife, son and two dogs. You can frequently find us at the town park, town library, a nearby trail or walking our dogs in our neighborhood.

BY THE NUMBERS

(as of April 8, 2022)

0 Cuts to programs or services in the proposed school budget for 2022-23

2 News Channel 13 Top Teachers this year (Art Teacher Valerie Gordon and English Teacher Emily Shatraw)

3 Teams that advanced to the Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament (one each from DPS, Goff and Red Mill)

7 Columbia students who had artwork accepted into the highly competitive High School Regional Art Exhibition at the Albany Center Gallery

18 Years in a row the district has received the School Safety Excellence Award from Utica National Insurance Group

23 Board of Education meetings hosted in person and live streamed for the public so far this year

64 Research projects presented by students at the Genet STEM Fair

98 Graduation rate for Columbia High School in 2021 (2nd highest rate in Capital Region)

120 Gallons of sap boiled down into pure maple syrup in the Bell Top Learning Barn this past March

357 Students taking college-level courses at Columbia High School this year

372 News stories posted on egcsd.org since the first day of school

775 Students on the Columbia High School Honor Roll during 2nd quarter

2,900 New Chromebooks purchased for students from federal COVID funding to replace end of life units

3,302 Dollars collected by district fundraisers and donated to UNICEF, specifically for children affected by the crisis in Ukraine

5,220 People following our district Facebook page (join them at facebook.com/egcsd)

5,598 COVID test kits distributed for free